



# **U.S. House of Representatives Committee on the Judiciary**

## **F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr., Chairman**

---

<http://judiciary.house.gov/>

### ***News Advisory***

For immediate release  
December 16, 2005

Contact: Jeff Lungren/Terry Shawn (Sensenbrenner)  
202-225-2492  
Dena Graziano (Conyers)  
202-226-6888

## **Sensenbrenner/Conyers Sponsor Legislation to Strengthen Intellectual Property Protections by Securing Analog Content from Theft**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – House Judiciary Committee Chairman F. James Sensenbrenner, Jr. (R-Wis.) today introduced legislation strengthening intellectual property protections by securing analog content from theft. The use of devices to convert analog content into digital versions which can easily be uploaded onto the Internet is a significant technical weakness in content protection. H.R. 4569, “The Digital Transition Content Security Act of 2005,” is cosponsored by Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr. (D-Mich.).

Chairman Sensenbrenner stated, “This legislation is designed to secure analog content from theft that has been made easier as a result of the transition to digital technologies. Although many of those who convert analog content into digital form are not engaging in any illegal conduct, there are a good number of criminals who take advantage of existing weaknesses in legislation and technology to obtain copyrighted content and then redistribute for profit at the copyright owner’s expense. This practice is nothing short of theft.”

“There is no doubt that pirating intellectual property can be a profitable criminal activity. Just this week, a software pirate pled guilty in Alexandria, Virginia to making \$20 million in sales of counterfeit intellectual property. New technologies have made the widespread redistribution of copyrighted content significantly easier,” added Chairman Sensenbrenner.

Ranking Members Conyers said, “As one of our most successful industries, it is important that we protect the content community from unfettered piracy. One aspect of that fight is making sure that digital media do not lose their content protection simply because of lapses in technology. This bill will help ensure that technology keeps pace with content delivery.”

H.R. 4569 mandates the use of two technologies to limit and frustrate redistribution of video content. This legislation builds upon existing law by mandating the detection and response to two separate technologies that work together to defeat pirates. The two technologies are the Content Generation Management System - Analog (CGMS-A) and Video Encoded Invisible Light (VEIL).

The legislation would require that devices that convert analog content pass through the CGMS-A and VEIL content protection signals contained in the original version. To ensure that the technology used does not become outdated, the Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to conduct ongoing rulemakings to update the technology.

“I urge all interested parties to continue to negotiate to see if a private sector solution can be fully developed to secure analog content from theft. This issue is simply too important for parties to avoid negotiations. Nonetheless, I look forward to working on this legislation next year,” Chairman Sensenbrenner concluded.

####